

For a fine-grained hierarchy for Central Adverbial Clauses

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Haegeman's (2012) proposal establish *central adverbial clauses* (CACs) should be merged somewhere within the TP since they are event-related, i. e., modify the proposition of the matrix clause they are attached. Almost 10-15 classes of CACs are admitted by grammarians and linguists who assume that this type of adverbial clauses may modify the event by adding a "circumstance" of *time, reason, purpose, manner* and so on. By turning to Brazilian Portuguese data and assuming Kayne's (2005) One Feature, One Head principle (OFOHp), one can argue that the different semantic classes of CACs and the corresponding prepositional phrases (PPs) matching their semantics would occupy the same structural position within the *functional spine*.

Therefore, it is the main goal of this paper to propose a merge position to the different types of CACs therefore arguing that these types of adverbial clauses are the realisation of the same categories conveyed by Schweikert (2005) and Cinque's (2006) circumstantial PPs. The 'jointly occurrence with elements supposedly belonging to the same category' test (Tescari Neto 2021) makes this claim clear: see the ungrammaticality of (1) whose ill-formedness is due to the fact that causal CACs and PPs are competing for the same place in the structure, that is, the specifier associated with Cause (which modifies the event in the matrix clause).

The hierarchy below in (2) would represent, then, besides the merge site for adverbial clauses, the base order in which distinct semantic types of CACs would enter the derivation. Some pieces of evidence can be offered in favor of my proposal:

(i) the position of focusing adverbs in BP which according to Tescari Neto (2017), are merged in a medial position in the structure, above AspFrequentativeI (3); therefore, from that position, it can take scope over all CACs as they are merged below, closer to vP (4). According Haegeman (2012) it is expected that CACs are under the scope of focusing adverb.

(ii) the different intonations with different positions between two adverbial clauses (see 5a-b). According to Schweikert (2005), the non-marked reading of two PPs could generate "differences in markedness". As we are claiming for the equivalence between CACs and PPs let's extend this assumption for adverbial clauses as well. In BP, 4a has a flat intonation, what suggests that should be the neutral order, in opposition to 4b, which emerges a stress intonation.

Besides those evidence, more can be presented: (iii) the unpronounced copy of moved CACs that allows one detect in a more detailed way when and where they enter in the derivation and (iv) the possibility of focusing a CAC on *the low-periphery* (Belletti, 2004) maintaining all the scope relations assumed for CACs and being less costly for the derivation. My assumption converges with Haegeman's (2012) statement

that CACs are merged within the TP layer and the fact they modify the event in the matrix clause. Nonetheless, what is new is that I interpret the facts by exploring the data in a more cartographic fashion, therefore suggesting a more detailed structure to explain the merge place of these different types of CACs

- (1) *O evento começará [porque todos estão presentes_{CAC}] [por causa do horário combinado_{PP}.]
'The event will start [because everyone is present] [because of the scheduled time.]'
- (2) Evidential > Temporal > Locative > Comitative > Benefactive > Reason > Source > Goal > Malefactive > Instrumental / Means / Path > Matter > Manner > VP
- (3) ...[**só** Exclusive > [frequentemente Asp_{Frequentative(I)}] > [de gosto Mod_{Volitive}] > [rapidamente Asp_{Celerative(I)}] > [já T_{Anterior}] > [não mais Asp_{Terminative}] > ... (Tescari Neto, 2017. Adapted)
- (4) O evento **só** começará [porque todos estão presentes].
'The event **only** will start [because everyone is present].'
- (5) a. Pedro arrumou a casa [quando chegou do trabalho_{temp}] [porque receberá visitas_{reason}].
'Pedro tidied up the house [when he got home from work] [because he will have guests].'
b. Pedro arrumou a casa, [porque receberá visitas_{reason}], [quando chegou do trabalho_{temp}].
'Pedro tidied up the house, [because he will have guests], [when he gets home from work].'

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